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JACK ANDERSON'S WASHINGTON LETTER April 1987

March 24--CIA source tipped me off that Libya's obstreperous ruler, Moammar Gadhafi, may not survive his latest military misadventure. I reported 14 months ago that his erratic policies and mercurial moods had caused bitter friction among army officers who had originally backed his coup. In August 1985, he ordered them to invade Tunisia. They turned on Gadhafi instead. Military setbacks in Chad have further alienated army officers. By CIA count, he has survived 22 assassination attempts; on one occasion bullet nicked his neck. CIA is betting next attempt will succeed. Meanwhile, Gadhafi is expected to react wildly; CIA is bracing for wild terrorist attacks by Gadhafi's zealots and hired terrorists.